

MM 99-25

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Office of Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
445 Twelfth Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554



DOCKET MM 99-25 (a.k.a. RM-9208 & RM-9242)

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of the proposed low-power FM radio service (LPFM), Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) Docket MM 99-25. The 1996 Telecommunications Act has had far reaching effects on the radio industry. By the end of 1997 over 4,000 of the country's 11,000 radio stations were sold and in the 50 largest markets only three firms controlled over 50% of the ad revenue. Radio today is controlled by conglomerates that are concerned not with maintaining diversity but instead with increasing profits.

LPFM will serve local communities in ways that it is not possible in commercial radio, such as providing a forum for local music, and educational and community voices to be heard. I believe it is important to support local and noncommercial radio interests because it is becoming increasing hard to survive amidst big business radio.

In particular I support LPFM as an educational forum for universities and other such institutions unable broadcast at a regular FM frequency. As a university student, I personally would benefit from the potential of LPFM radio.

It is increasing hard to make it in the music industry and non-commercial music is harder to find today than ever. Unless, as a nation, we support non-commercial and local music in the way of fostering true diversity through media such as LPFM it will continue to become rarer until diversity no longer exists. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Jill Hopke

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